

POLICE, FIRE & SAFETY LIAISON BRIEFING

705 W. University Avenue, Ted A. Ardoin City-Parish Council Auditorium
Tuesday, April 12, 2005

COUNCIL MEMBERS: *Present*-Bobby Badeaux-District 1; Dale Bourgeois-District 2; Louis C. Benjamin, Jr.-District 4; Lenwood Broussard-District 5; Bruce Conque-District 6; Randy Menard-District 9

Absent-Christopher J. William, Ph.D.-District 3; Marc Mouton-District 7; Rob Stevenson-District 8

ADMINISTRATION: *Present*-J. L. Durel, Jr. (City-Parish President), Becky Lalumia (Chief Financial Officer), Pat Ottinger (Legal Counsel), Randy Hundley (Chief of Police)

COUNCIL STAFF: Norma Dugas (Clerk of the Council), Anne Patin (Senior Administrative Assistant)

(TAPE 1)(SIDE A)(000) AGENDA ITEM NO. 1: Call to order.

Councilmember Bobby Badeaux called the Police, Fire & Safety Liaison Briefing of April 12, 2005 to order.

(TAPE 1)(SIDE A)(002) AGENDA ITEM NO. 2: Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilmember Bruce Conque gave the invocation and then led the Pledge of Allegiance.

(TAPE 1)(SIDE A)(014) AGENDA ITEM NO. 3: Discuss proposed COMSTAT program and Police Department reorganization.

Chief Hundley and Sgt. Brian Butler, LCP, made a presentation to the Council regarding the COMSTAT Program. The following points were made:

- COMP-STAT is using computer gathered statistics as a method of deployment for all of the manpower and resources in policing.
- COMP-STAT is more efficient, is proactive, problem oriented and community oriented. The idea is to look for ways to prevent certain things from occurring.
- Under the new proposal, the city will be divided into 3 different districts with each district having an allocation of officers based on statistics. Also, there will exist an Investigative Services and Administrative Services area.
- COMP-STAT is based on crime data. All the data is gathered and mapped, analyzed and then used to develop strategies for deployment and the allocation of resources.
- Currently there are 14 different patrol zones and, on a given day, 15 – 17 vehicles are deployed across the City and at peak points, additional units assist.

- Under the new plan, the City will be divided into 3 districts, which will be aligned with the Council Districts. This will have a Zero negative impact on current deployment.
- The Police Chief will meet with the District Chiefs on a weekly basis to discuss what is going on in their districts. The District Chiefs will meet regularly with their respective Councilmembers.
- All statistical data can be accessed by both the precinct Commanders and by the Councilmembers via the newly deployed Crime View Web.
- He then gave a demonstration on how the computer program worked.

Hundley added that the District Chiefs would meet twice a month with the Councilmember. Areas of conflict will be discussed. He added that with the system he will be able to show where the officers need to be deployed and to what advantage the Councilmembers will have to their constituents.

Upon questioning by the Council, the following information was given:

- Administratively, personnel will be given more duties to handle, which allows the freeing up of other officers to put on the street. The Police Department would then be in a preventive-type nature vs. reactive nature. The program itself will evaluate deployment every 24 hours. The Precinct commanders will review these evaluations daily and will make adjustments in the manpower. This will allow for shifting of officers to a problem area, such as speeding.
- Fiscal impact is approximately \$100,000 mainly for increases in salaries due to increase in duties. Within 1 year, Civil Service will do evaluation of the jobs to make certain the increase in pay is justified. 5 individuals will receive an increase in salary according to the needs and the work they will be doing and as according to the Civil Service Director, 1 Civilian Office Manager will be added and a slight increase to 4 Records Clerks to a Secretarial level.
- Net gain for the Police Department will be 3 additional officers in 2 of the 3 precincts and 5 additional officers in the third precinct. If the crime shifts, each Chief will have the flexibility of taking his manpower and reassigning.
- The Comp Stat Program is already being used under the present structure.
- Differential in pay between patrolman and corporal is 10%, between corporal and sergeant is 10%, between sergeant and lieutenant is 7%, between lieutenant and captain is 5%, and between major and captain is 5%. The Civil Service Director has reviewed and recommended these changes.

Conque requested the following:

- To see the changes in the job descriptions (Records Clerk vs. Secretary) and why that would be necessary
- How were the assistants to the District Chiefs classified?
- A letter from the Civil Service Director stating that this will not cause a ripple effect on salaries.

- The Comp Stat program will begin immediately upon approval by the Council. All vacancies will be filled from promoting up from within the department, contingent upon testing.
- The current majors will be placed in the 3 District Chief positions (as Majors). The current 2 captains will be promoted to Major on the services end. Each District Chief will have detectives and officers working under them. The Juvenile Division and the Metro Narcotics Division will be left intact because of their effectiveness.
- This reorganization does not reflect the 5 officers short in the manning table.
- 11 individuals will receive salary increases: 3 Majors, 2 captains (promotions), 2 Lieutenants (promotions), 2 sergeants (promotions) and 2 corporals (promotions) and 1 office worker. Broussard requested the amount of increase for each position.
- Civil Service provides for the senior officer to receive the promotion, provided he/she passes a written test.

Durel interjected that he felt with the shortage of officers, Comp Stat would make the whole department more efficient. As far as funding this venture at \$100,000, it's an investment in not having to hire as many officers to accomplish the same thing over the next several years.

At this point, Conque retracted his request for the job description of the secretarial positions and assistants; however, he still requested a letter from the Civil Service Director reassuring the Council that this will not have a ripple effect or a long-term, negative impact in terms of salary increases.

Broussard requested a copy of the presentation made by Sgt. Butler.

Lalumia explained that before this is implemented it would require revisions to the pay plan, which will come before the Council in the form of an ordinance and will have all of the details on the specific positions attached.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

(TAPE 1)(SIDE B)(153) AGENDA ITEM NO. 4: Comments from the public regarding the above listed item.

Patrick Brasseaux spoke in favor of the Comp-Stat Program stating that more officers are needed on the streets.

(TAPE 1)(SIDE B)(202) AGENDA ITEM NO. 5: Adjourn.

There being no further business to come before the Briefing, Chair Badeaux declared the Liaison Briefing adjourned.

NORMA A. DUGAS, CLERK
LAFAYETTE CITY-PARISH COUNCIL